Tano Maida
c/o Legacy Media
510-848-8319

Tano (star of Jon Carroll column):

Got your voice mail message:

1. Howard didn't respond to my email, and I got his answering machine at both his work and home numbers, so I'm guessing he may not be back to town yet.

My reading of the letter to staff is that it is unexceptionable, except for clarity about doing the calculations to assign costs to the project. I'm assuming good faith there — I guess you might add a note that those figures will be reviewed by both the board and Howard and both will agree that they're reasonable. But that's largely a formality, I think. In my opinion, you could go ahead and prepare the letter.

2. I'll await wording from you on the contributors letter. The vast majority of the work we're paying for is text. Most of the visuals in the book are either public domain or are illustrations from books we are reviewing. The exceptions I know of:

6 drawings by James Donnelly, but he is on staff, the clearest instance of work for hire.

One drawing by Matt Wuerker (previously printed in WER). Howard was going to get prior permission, but — alas — didn't, as far as I know.

The Jim Woodring cartoons, which were commissioned for MWEC.

6 Photographs by Michael Abelman. They're all from a book we did review and they were used with at least his oral permission (in fact, he sent transparencies which he wants back and which unfortunately seem to have been misplaced. Karen Van Epen says she gave them to Kathleen, Kathleen says she scanned straight from the book and never used the transparencies. Etc.).

One photograph to accompany a piece on sound recording in nature. The credit line says, "Thanks to Mickey Houlihan," who wrote the piece.

In the back, we used photographs of Domain Editors, some of which they submitted themselves. Those didn't end up being credited. Does that sound like a problem?

I'll wait to hear from you.

Mike